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Testimony of Lauren Iannucci Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Connecticut

Connecticut General Assembly Transportation Committee
March 4, 2009
MADD CT supports and endorses SB No. 153 "An Act Concerning Administrative
Per Se Violations and Procedures.

Thank you Co-Chairman Donald DeFronzo, Co-Chairman Antonio Guerrera and members of the Transportation Committee for holding this important hearing and for the opportunity to submit testimony today in support of SB No. 153. My name is Lauren Iannucci and I am the Youth Coordinator for Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

The Connecticut General Assembly has the opportunity this session to expand current state statutes to provide revised measures to strengthen current Administrative Per Se sanctions. Each day the MADD CT state office receives phone calls from frustrated law enforcement officers who have attended an Adm Per Se hearing for drunk drivers trying to outsmart the agency to get their drivers license returned. The following critical changes would deter drunk drivers and their attorneys:

- Eliminate probable cause this requires only that the arresting officer's report to the DMV contain the officer's certification that there was probable cause to make the arrest
- Make the A-44 DUI form an electronic form for computer use in police vehicles.
- Decrease the minimum time between the first and second BAC tests from 30 minutes to 10 minutes.
- Expand the definition of "elevated blood alcohol content" to include operating a commercial motor vehicle with a blood-alcohol level of .04% or more.

Drunk driving offenders must be held accountable for the crime of driving drunk. Tougher sanctions can and do offer the offender the opportunity to reflect upon their behavior.

On behalf of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, I respectfully ask the Transportation Committee to support SB No. 153.

Thank you.